

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Withdrawn) A method for promoting outgrowth of a mammalian neuron comprising contacting said neuron with the peptide of claim 6.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) An isolated peptide derived from the ankyrin binding domain of an L1-CAM family member protein, wherein said peptide (i) does not contain transmembrane and extracellular portions of the L1-CAM family member protein, (ii) comprising the amino acid sequence of QFNEDGSFIGQF (SEQ ID NO: 2), and ~~wherein said peptide (iii)~~ promotes neurite outgrowth.

7. (Currently Amended) The peptide of claim 6 comprising ~~the~~ amino acid sequence of QFNEDGSFIGQF (SEQ ID NO: 2) linked to ~~the~~ amino acid sequence of RQIKIWFQNRRMKWKK (SEQ ID NO: 6), wherein said sequences are linked by a disulfide bond.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Canceled)

10. (Canceled)

11. (Canceled)

12. (Canceled)

13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)

15. (Canceled)

16. (Canceled)

17. (Canceled)

18. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the peptide of claim 6 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

19. (Currently Amended) An isolated peptide consisting essentially of (i) the ankyrin binding domain of an LI-CAM family member protein or a fragment of such ankyrin binding domain, wherein the carboxy-terminal tyrosine is substituted with phenylalanine and which comprises the amino acid sequence of QFNEDGSFIGQF (SEQ ID NO: 2) and (ii) optionally, a targeting sequence which allows translocation of the peptide across the plasma membrane and into the cytoplasm of cells, wherein said peptide promotes neurite outgrowth.

20. (Currently Amended) An isolated ~~The peptide of claim 19~~ consisting of the ~~an~~ amino acid sequence of QFNEDGSFIGQF (SEQ ID NO: 2).

21. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the peptide of claim 19 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

22. (Previously Presented) The peptide of claim 6 which comprises a targeting sequence which allows translocation of the peptide across the plasma membrane and into the cytoplasm of cells.

23. (Currently Amended) The peptide of claim 22, wherein the targeting sequence comprises the ~~an~~ amino acid sequence of RQIKIWFQNRRMKWKK (SEQ ID NO: 6).

24. (Currently Amended) An isolated ~~The peptide of claim 23~~ consisting of ~~the~~ amino acid sequence of RQIKIWFQNRRMKWKKQFNEDGSFIGQF (SEQ ID NO: 3).

25. (Canceled)